IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application. Inserted text is underlined, and deleted text is either struck through or shown in double enclosing brackets. No new matter has been added, and all claimed elements are supported by the specification as originally filed.

1. (Currently Amended)   A method comprising:

    providing a trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) of a plurality of trigger time points within a multimedia signal,

        the trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) corresponding to a segment of a plurality of segments of the multimedia signal,

        the trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) corresponding to at least one of a predetermined distance from the start of the segment or a predetermined distance from the end of the segment,

        each segment of the plurality of segments being identified by one of the plurality of trigger time points and corresponding to specific content to be shown to a user;

    providing a representation of an action that corresponds to the specific content to be shown in the segment of the multimedia signal,

        the trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) indicating a time point within the multimedia signal at which the action is to be triggered during a playback of the multimedia signal;

    deriving a fingerprint based on the segment of the multimedia signal; and

    associating the derived fingerprint with the action.

2. (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

    storing at least one of the derived fingerprint or the representation of the action in a first database.

3. (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 1, further comprising

transmitting at least one of the derived fingerprint or the representation of the action to a

playback device.

4.-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 1, wherein

the multimedia signal includes at least one of an audio signal or a video signal.

9. (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 1, wherein

the action is selected from a group consisting of:

retrieving and displaying additional information on a display,

retrieving and playing additional information via a speaker,

playing another multimedia signal instead of the multimedia signal for a period of

time,

interrupting the playback of the multimedia signal,

executing control commands, and

preparing a system for user inputs.

10. (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 2, further comprising

storing at least one of the derived fingerprint or the representation of the action in a

second database; and wherein

the derived fingerprint is at least one of an audio fingerprint or a video fingerprint.

11. (Currently Amended)   A device comprising:

    a fingerprint module implemented in hardware, the fingerprint module being configured

        to:

        provide a trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) of a plurality of trigger time points within a

            multimedia signal,

            the trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) corresponding to a segment of a plurality

                of segments of the multimedia signal,

            <u>the trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) corresponding to at least one of a</u>

                <u>predetermined distance from the start of the segment or a</u>

                <u>predetermined distance from the end of the segment,</u>

            each segment of the plurality of segments being identified by one of the

                plurality of trigger time points and corresponding to specific

                content to be shown to a user; and

        provide a representation of an action that corresponds to the specific content to be

            shown in the segment of the multimedia signal,

            the trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) indicating a time point within the

                multimedia signal at which the action is to be triggered during a

                playback of the multimedia signal; and

        derive a fingerprint based on the segment of the multimedia signal; and

    a database module configured to associate the derived fingerprint with the action.

12. (Previously Presented)   The device according to claim 11, further comprising:

    a first database to store at least one of the derived fingerprint or the representation of the

        action.

13. (Previously Presented)   The device according to claim 11, further comprising:

    a transmitter to transmit at least one of the derived fingerprint or the representation of the

        action to a playback device.

14.-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented)   The device according to claim 11, wherein

   the multimedia signal includes at least one of an audio signal or a video signal.

19. (Previously Presented)   The device according to claim 11, wherein

   the action is selected from a group consisting of:

       retrieving and displaying additional information on a display,

       retrieving and playing additional information via a speaker,

       playing another multimedia signal instead of the multimedia signal for a period of

           time,

       interrupting the playback of the multimedia signal,

       executing control commands, and

       preparing the device for user inputs.

20. (Previously Presented)   The device according to claim 12, further comprising

   a second database to store at least one of the derived fingerprint or the representation of

       the action; and wherein

   the derived fingerprint is at least one of an audio fingerprint or a video fingerprint.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE   **Page 6**
Serial Number: 10/564,297   Dkt: 2167.052US1
Filing Date: January 10, 2006
Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR GENERATING AND DETECTING A FINGERPRINT FUNCTIONING AS A TRIGGER MARKER IN
     A MULTIMEDIA SIGNAL

21. (Currently Amended)   A non-transitory computer readable storage medium comprising instructions that, when executed, cause one or more processors to execute operations comprising:

     providing a trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) of a plurality of trigger time points within a multimedia signal,

         the trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) corresponding to a segment of a plurality of segments of the multimedia signal,

         <u>the trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) corresponding to at least one of a</u> a predetermined <u>distance from the start of the segment or a predetermined distance from the end of the segment,</u>

         each segment of the plurality of segments being identified by one of the plurality of trigger time points and corresponding to specific content to be shown to a user;

     providing a representation of an action that corresponds to the specific content to be shown by the segment of the multimedia signal,

         the trigger time point (T_n; T_{n+1}) indicating a time point within the multimedia signal at which the action is to be triggered during a playback of the multimedia signal;

     deriving a fingerprint based on the segment of the multimedia signal; and

     associating the derived fingerprint with the action.

22.-27. (Canceled)